

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/000620

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1, 3-5, 8-21 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 22 received by this Authority on 21.06.2005
- pages* 2, 6, 7 received by this Authority on 16.03.2006
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 2-4 as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1, 5-7 received by this Authority on 16.03.2006
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets fig. 1-12 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)	<p>Document 1 (JP 2003-158470 A (Lucent Technologies Inc.), 30 May 2003, paragraph [0040] & US 5952922 A1 & EP 851239 A1 & CA 2219074 A1) indicates that "herein, the location determination process is a software-based process that is capable of determining the location of a tag based on the signal strength of the acknowledgement message that is issued in response to the execution of the location determination process by the interrogator."</p> <p>Meanwhile, document 2 (WO 2002/103645 A2 (RF Code, Inc.), 27 December 2002, abstract & US 2003/30568 A1 & EP 1410353 A & JP 2005-500516 A & CA 2450727 A) indicates that "within the location detection system, the low-frequency transmitter transmits location identification information such as a transmitter ID to a tag in the vicinity of the transmission, whereafter the tag relays the transmitter ID by means of a higher frequency transmission, which is transmitted from the tag to the receiver."</p> <p>Claims 1 to 7</p> <p>The documents that are cited in the international search report do not disclose or suggest the transmission means whereby probe signals are transmitted to the other</p>		

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
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IC tags, or the second response means whereby the
information (Y) from the transmission-source IC tag,
which was stored in the memory, is returned to the
interrogator.

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

(1) In fig. 4, it is unclear what is being represented by the reference sign "(Xa)," which appears beside the dotted line that represents the probe signal.

(2) Claim 1 stipulates that the "information (Y) from the other IC tag, which is the transmission source specified by the interrogator, is stored in the memory." In order to store the information (Y) in the memory, it is necessary to first acquire said information (Y); however, neither the signal from which the information (Y) is acquired nor the means by which the IC tag acquires the information (Y) is apparent from the disclosure in claim 1.

(3) Claim 7 stipulates that the "information (Y) from the other IC tag, which is the transmission source specified by the interrogator, is stored in the memory." In order to store the information (Y) in the memory, it is necessary to first acquire said information (Y); however, neither the signal from which the information (Y) is acquired nor the step in which the IC tag acquires the information (Y) is apparent from the disclosure in claim 7.